

wet. Mr. Meehan suggests that by taking sections at different places in the same log we would find the same layer bearing all kinds of testimony. The writer has heard classes gravely informed that the above was the fact, and also that the rings of growth found in fossil trees necessarily indicated seasons of cold and warmth. In the last instance a bright boy rather nonplussed the teacher by asking if there were no exogenous trees in the tropics.

PROF. F. C. PHILLIPS, of Western University, Penn., has been experimenting upon the effects produced upon plants by being grown in soil impregnated with certain metallic oxides. His conclusions are as follows:

1. That healthy plants, grown under favorable conditions, may absorb through their roots small quantities of lead, zinc, copper and arsenic.

2. That lead and zinc may enter the tissues in this way without causing any disturbance in the growth, nutrition and functions of the plant.

3. That the compounds of copper and arsenic exert a distinctly poisonous influence, tending, when present in larger quantity, to check the formation of roots, and either killing the plant or so far reducing its vitality as to interfere with nutrition and growth.

New Stations for Rare Plants.—1. *Botrychium matricariaefolium*, Al. Br. About June 10 of last summer, in company with Prof. Joseph Milliken of Columbus, O., I made an excursion for plants in the vicinity of this city. In a thicket on a northern slope, we found a specimen of this little fern. Going down on our hands and knees and making a thorough search, we finally counted *eighty-four* (84) specimens growing on an area of three or four square rods. This plant grows quite abundantly in eastern New York and in New England. But I have never before known it to be found west of the Alleghanies and south of Lake Superior. I have no doubt, though, that it grows on many a damp shady hillside with a northern exposure, in the states of Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio. It should be looked for during the month of June.

2. *Veratrum Woodii*, Robbins. This plant grows in the woods about Dayton, O. My attention was first called to it by finding it transplanted from the woods to a neighbor's door-yard. The plants were very few and far between, however, till I found quite a patch of it near Ludlow Falls, 17 miles above Dayton, on the banks of the Stillwater river. In one spot I counted fifteen (15) plants; the trouble was however that only four or five of them threw up flower stalks, so that I did not get many specimens.—A. P. MORGAN, *Cincinnati*.

The Exogenous Flora of Lincoln Co., Miss., From October to May. II.—In the brilliant procession of spring flowers come a few Asters and Golden Rods, heralds of the midsummer phalanx. Even the curious *Aster adnatus* is already in bud. Two things impress me as distinctive of the scenery and of the woodlands here.